

13. MIMICRY BY COMMON IORA *AEGITHINA TIPHIA*

On 10th August, 1995, around 1300 hrs close to my residence, the repeated calls of a black drongo (*Dicrurus adsimilis*) attracted my attention. On investigation, it was found that a drongo was perched on a small tree nearby and was calling. Soon far more feeble, but similar calls were heard from another tree nearby by a male common iora. After a minute or so, the drongo departed but the

iora continued imitating it for quite some-time.

This act of mimicry by the iora has not been recorded in the literature and is rather unusual for the species.

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14. UNUSUAL NEST LOCATION OF REDVENTED BULBUL  
*PYCNONOTUS CAFER* (LINN.)

A redvented bulbul (*Pycnonotus cafer*) made a nest inside a staff bus of the 'Space Applications Centre', Ahmedabad. In the first week of May, 1996 we found it sitting on a nest built on the luggage rack at the rear end of the bus. The bus is usually parked at the SAC campus, adjacent to Sundarvan but ferries passengers twice a day — in the morning and evening.

Interestingly, when the bus plied and was on the move for a couple of hours or more in the city, the bulbul continued sitting at the nest, undisturbed by the passengers. Four eggs were observed in the nest on 12 May, 1996. The bus driver reported 2 fledgelings from this brood in the last week of May. The bulbul's mate was also seen several times when the bus was parked. Possibly, this pair made more than one breeding attempt, because the nest was seen to be occupied as late as July end.

In the same bus, three other nests — two in the forepart of the luggage rack and one at the rear end were found — suggesting that this pair or maybe some other individuals had attempted nesting prior to the observed nests. One of these nests was taken to Sundarvan and examined closely. Whereas this particular nest fits the general description of a redvented bulbul's nest as given in Ali and Ripley (1983) HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN, its somewhat 'mobile' location is unusual.

We thank Mr. Lavkumar Khacher for his comments and Mr. R.H. Bhatnagar, bus driver, for cooperation.

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15. POSSIBLE BREEDING BY ROCK THRUSH  
*MONTICOLA SAXATILIS* (LINN.) IN NORTH KASHMIR

The rock thrush *Monticola saxatilis* (Linnaeus) is believed to be a common passage migrant in Baltistan and Gilgit regions of north Kashmir (COMPACT HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF INDIA

AND PAKISTAN, Ali and Ripley 1987). It appears to nest occasionally in southern Baluchistan (THE BIRDS OF PAKISTAN, Vol. 2, Roberts, 1992). The only suggestion of its breeding in north Kashmir is